

Sec. 183.003. RATE OF INTEREST. The commission *on or before* each December 1~~;~~ ~~or the next regular workday if December 1 is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday,~~ shall set the annual interest rate for the next calendar year on deposits governed by this chapter at the average rate paid over the previous 12-month period on United States treasury bills with a 26-week maturity.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed the Senate on April 9, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 21, 2015: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved June 9, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

**PROCEDURE FOR CLAIMING AN EXEMPTION FROM AD
VALOREM TAXATION OF THE PROPERTY OF A VETERAN'S
ORGANIZATION**

CHAPTER 373

S.B. No. 918

AN ACT

relating to the procedure for claiming an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the property of a veteran's organization.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 11.43(c), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) An exemption provided by Section 11.13, 11.131, 11.132, 11.17, 11.18, 11.182, 11.1827, 11.183, 11.19, 11.20, 11.21, 11.22, *11.23(a); (h) [11.23(h)]*, (j), or (j-1), 11.231, 11.254, 11.271, 11.29, 11.30, 11.31, or 11.315, once allowed, need not be claimed in subsequent years, and except as otherwise provided by Subsection (e), the exemption applies to the property until it changes ownership or the person's qualification for the exemption changes. However, the chief appraiser may require a person allowed one of the exemptions in a prior year to file a new application to confirm the person's current qualification for the exemption by delivering a written notice that a new application is required, accompanied by an appropriate application form, to the person previously allowed the exemption.

SECTION 2. This Act applies only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2016.

Passed the Senate on April 28, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 21, 2015: Yeas 145, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 9, 2015.

Effective January 1, 2016.

**FIRE INSPECTIONS BY THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL FOR
STATE-OWNED AND STATE-LEASED BUILDINGS**

CHAPTER 374

S.B. No. 1105

AN ACT

relating to fire inspections by the state fire marshal for state-owned and state-leased buildings.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 417.0081, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 417.0081. INSPECTION OF ~~[CERTAIN]~~ STATE-OWNED OR STATE-LEASED BUILDINGS.

SECTION 2. Section 417.0081(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The state fire marshal, at the commissioner's direction, shall periodically inspect public buildings under the charge and control of a state agency ~~[the Texas Facilities Commission]~~ and buildings leased for the use of a state agency ~~[by the Texas Facilities Commission]~~.

SECTION 3. Section 417.0082, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 417.0082. PROTECTION OF ~~[CERTAIN]~~ STATE-OWNED OR STATE-LEASED BUILDINGS AGAINST FIRE HAZARDS; *AUTHORITY OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL*. (a) The state fire marshal, under the direction of the commissioner, shall take any action necessary to protect a public building under the charge and control of a state agency ~~[the Texas Facilities Commission]~~ and the building's occupants, and the occupants of a building leased for the use of a state agency ~~[by the Texas Facilities Commission]~~, against an existing or threatened fire hazard. The state fire marshal ~~[and the Texas Facilities Commission]~~ shall include the State Office of Risk Management and each state agency occupying or managing an affected building in all communication concerning fire hazards.

(b) The commissioner ~~[the Texas Facilities Commission]~~ and the State Office of Risk Management ~~[risk management board]~~ shall make and each adopt ~~[by rule]~~ a memorandum of understanding that coordinates the agency's duties under this section.

(c) *The state fire marshal is the authority having jurisdiction over a state-owned building for purposes of fire safety.*

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed the Senate on April 30, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 22, 2015: Yeas 140, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved June 9, 2015.

Effective June 9, 2015.

CONTINGENT DEFERRED ANNUITY CONTRACTS

CHAPTER 375

S.B. No. 1107

AN ACT

relating to contingent deferred annuity contracts.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 1107.002(a), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This chapter does not apply to:

- (1) a reinsurance contract;
- (2) a group annuity contract that is purchased under a retirement plan or plan of